New Stories! New Stories! New Stories!

MARVEL

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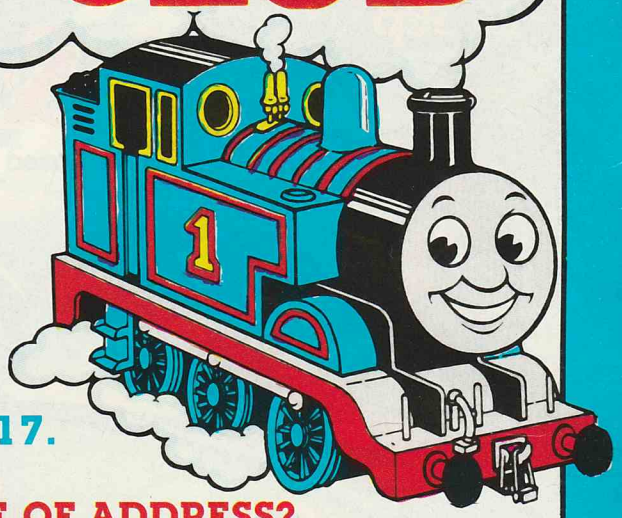
15th Oct. 1988
No.26 38p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Ooh! Percy is all alone!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!



Twit-twooo! What is poor Percy doing out alone at night? He should be in his shed! Oh dear! Find out what happened by reading the brand new story beginning on page 17.

EVERY ISSUE!

Don't miss out! Take out a subscription and have every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** sent straight to your home! You will also become a member of Thomas's Club **automatically** and will receive a membership card and splendid Club Pack! Turn to page **14** for details!

BE A MEMBER!

Another way to become a member of the **Thomas Club** is to collect **3 tokens** like the one below. You will be sent your very own membership card and number! Send one **yellow**, one **red** and one **green** token, together with a stamped, addressed envelope (at least 15 X 10cm) to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

THOMAS TOKEN

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and are moving, please send your new address to the Fat Controller at his address on the letters page.

CALLING CLUB MEMBERS!

These splendid, strong **Thomas the Tank Engine gloves** will help you keep warm this Winter! They are from *Peshawear (UK) Ltd,* and are available from all leading stores and shops.

Now, can you draw a picture of the Fat Controller wearing gloves? We'll send a pair to the first 10 Club members to send in their drawings! Don't forget your name, address and membership number. Send your entry to: *The Fat Controller's Gloves, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Next issue: Thomas the Tank Engine magazine is *one year old!* Don't miss our party and splendid competition!

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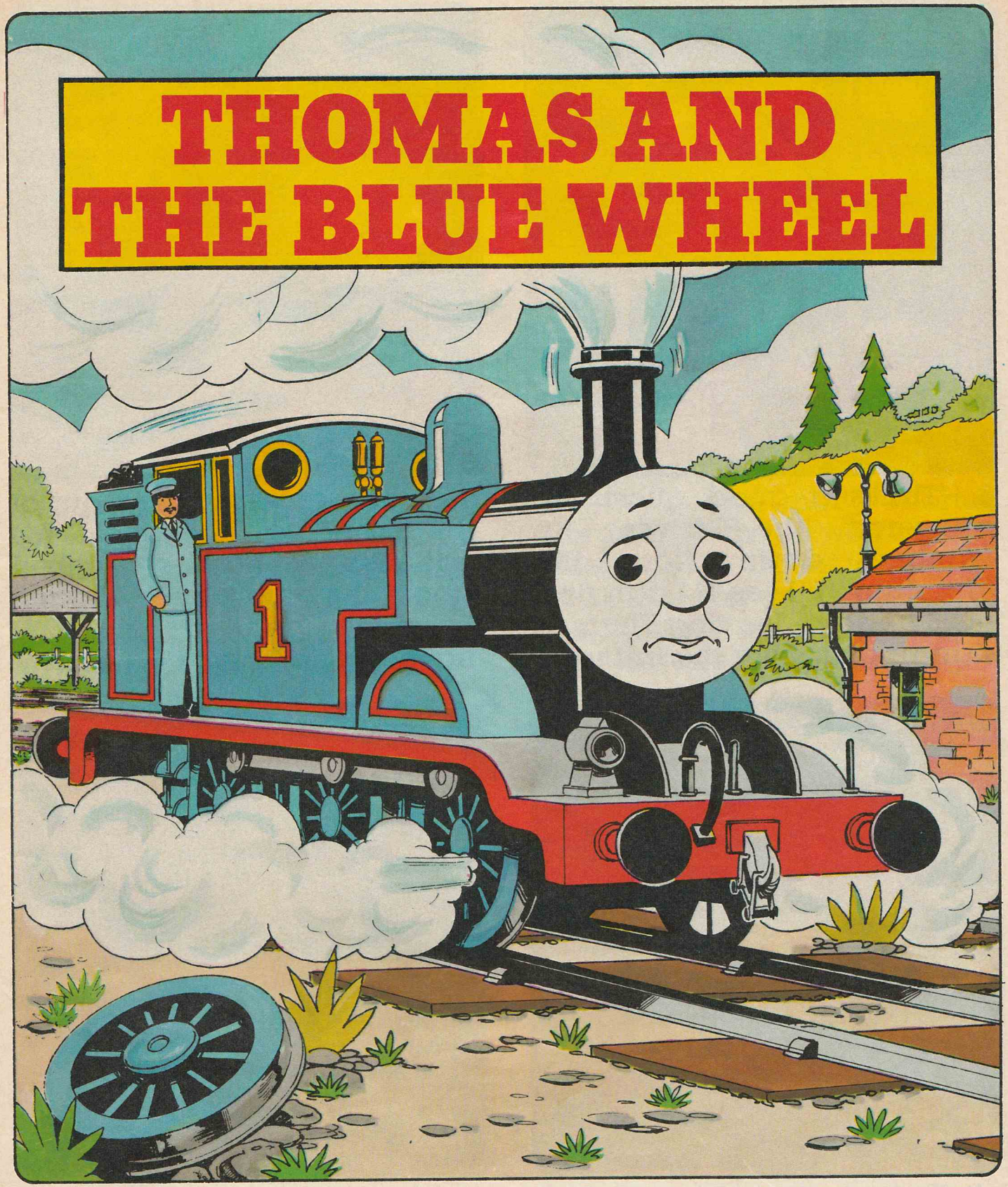
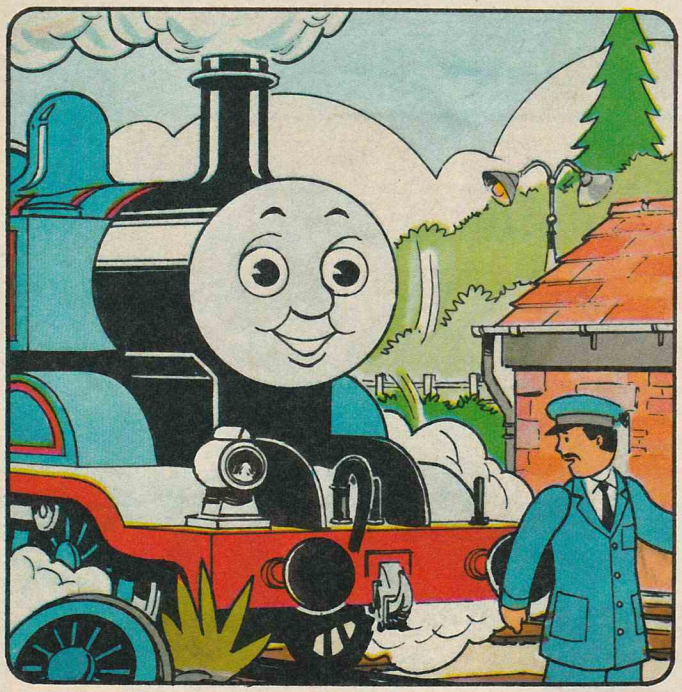
A listen and look story!

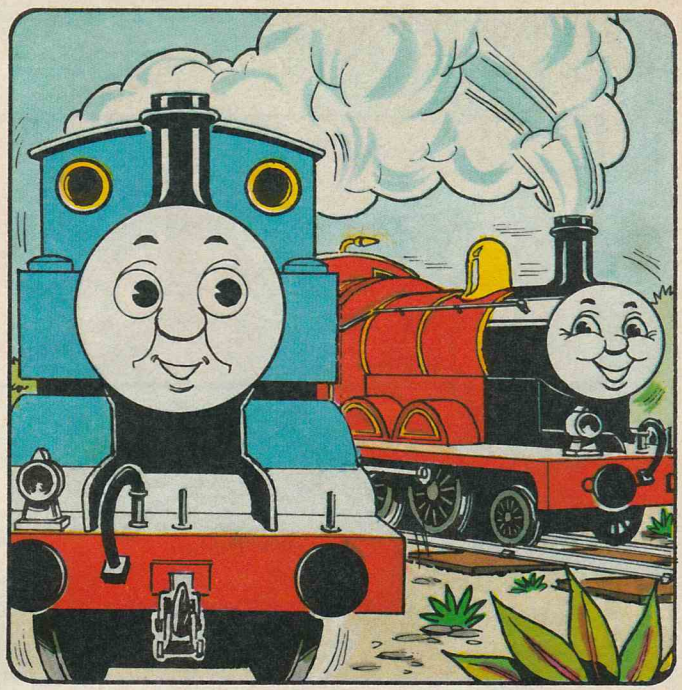


1. Thomas puffed into a siding for a rest after a busy morning on his branch line. By the side of the track, he saw a bright and shiny-looking, blue wheel.

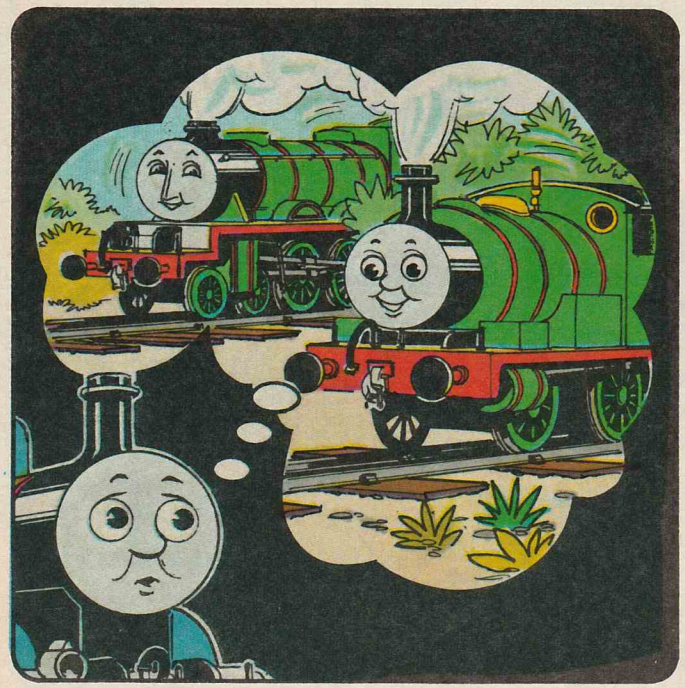
2. "Peep!" whistled Thomas. "I hope that isn't one of mine!" "No, Thomas," said his driver. "Your six wheels are all in place." "Then who has lost **this** wheel?" asked Thomas.



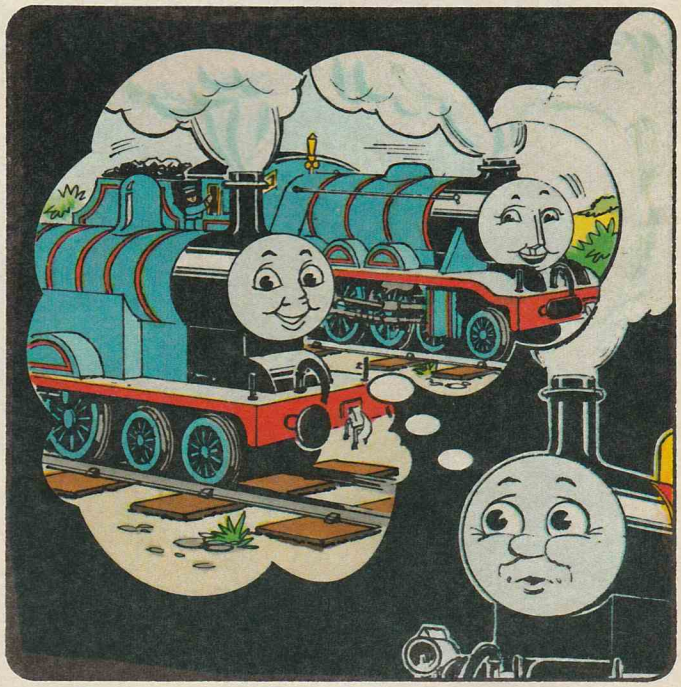
3. "That's a good question," answered the driver. He climbed down from the footplate. "I'll see if I can find out," he said, leaving Thomas standing alone in the siding.



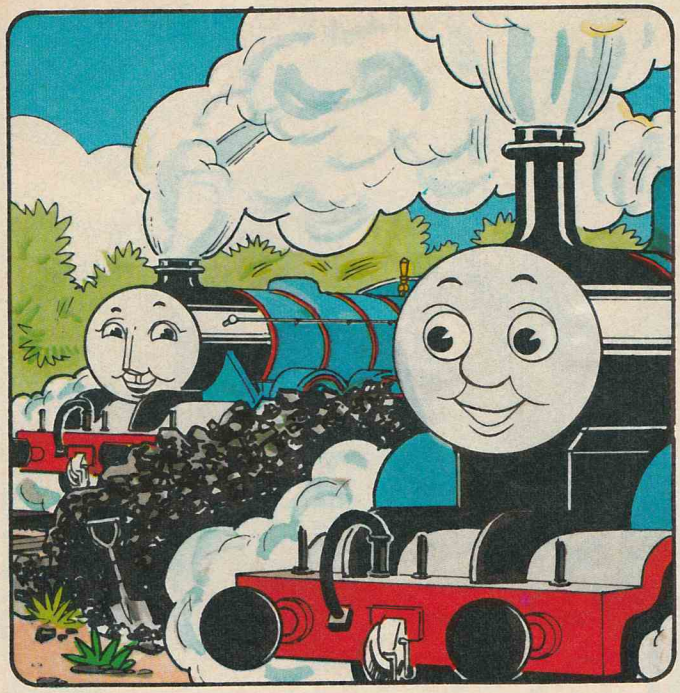
4. Soon, James chuffed out of the shed to collect his coaches. Thomas asked about the blue wheel. "It can't be mine," replied James. "I have splendid, **grey** wheels!"



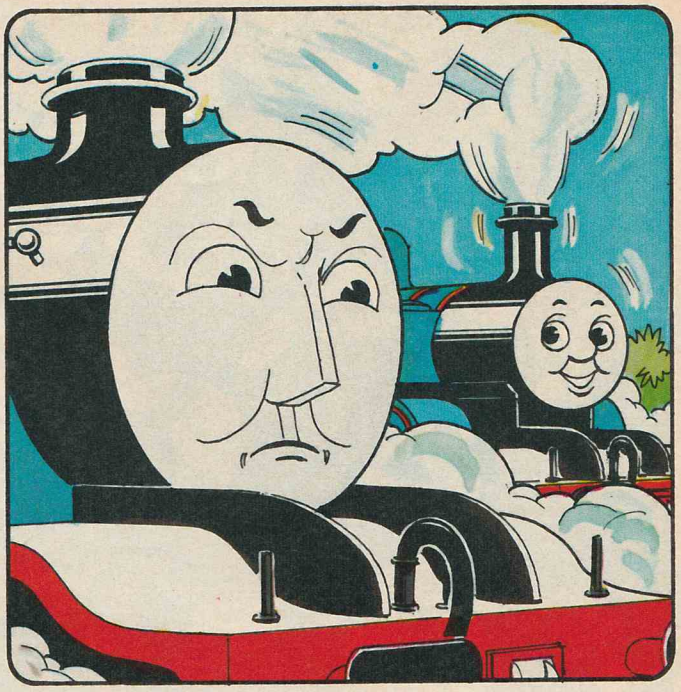
5. Thomas thought of Henry, the tender engine, and Percy, the small engine. "They both have green wheels," said Thomas. "This blue wheel can't belong to them, either!"



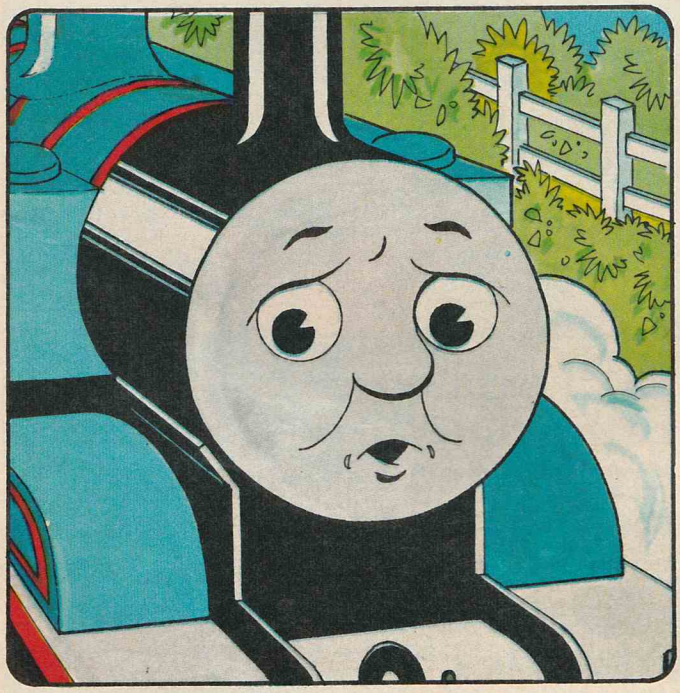
6. "Gordon and Edward have blue wheels," said James, as he puffed away towards the main station, for his coaches. "Perhaps the wheel belongs to one of them."



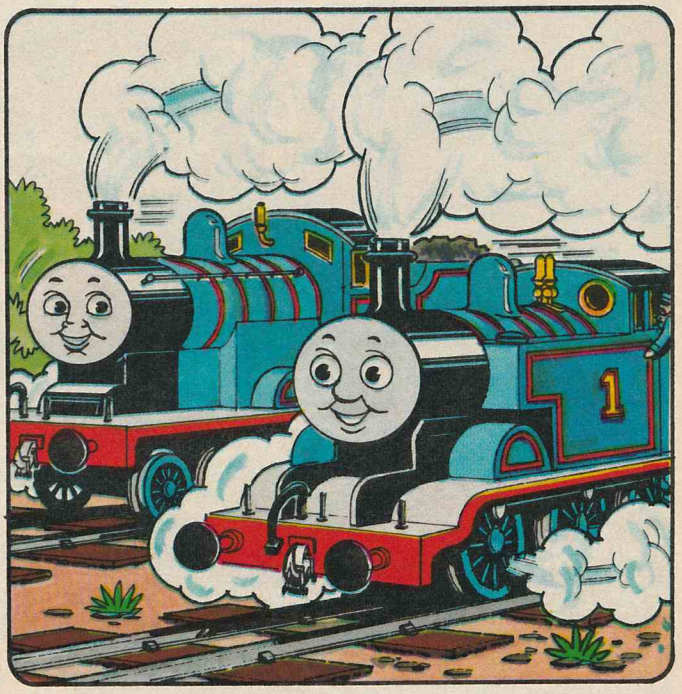
7. Just then, Gordon steamed slowly into view. Thomas couldn't see Gordon's wheels, for he was behind some heaps of coal. "Have you lost a **wheel**?" called Thomas.



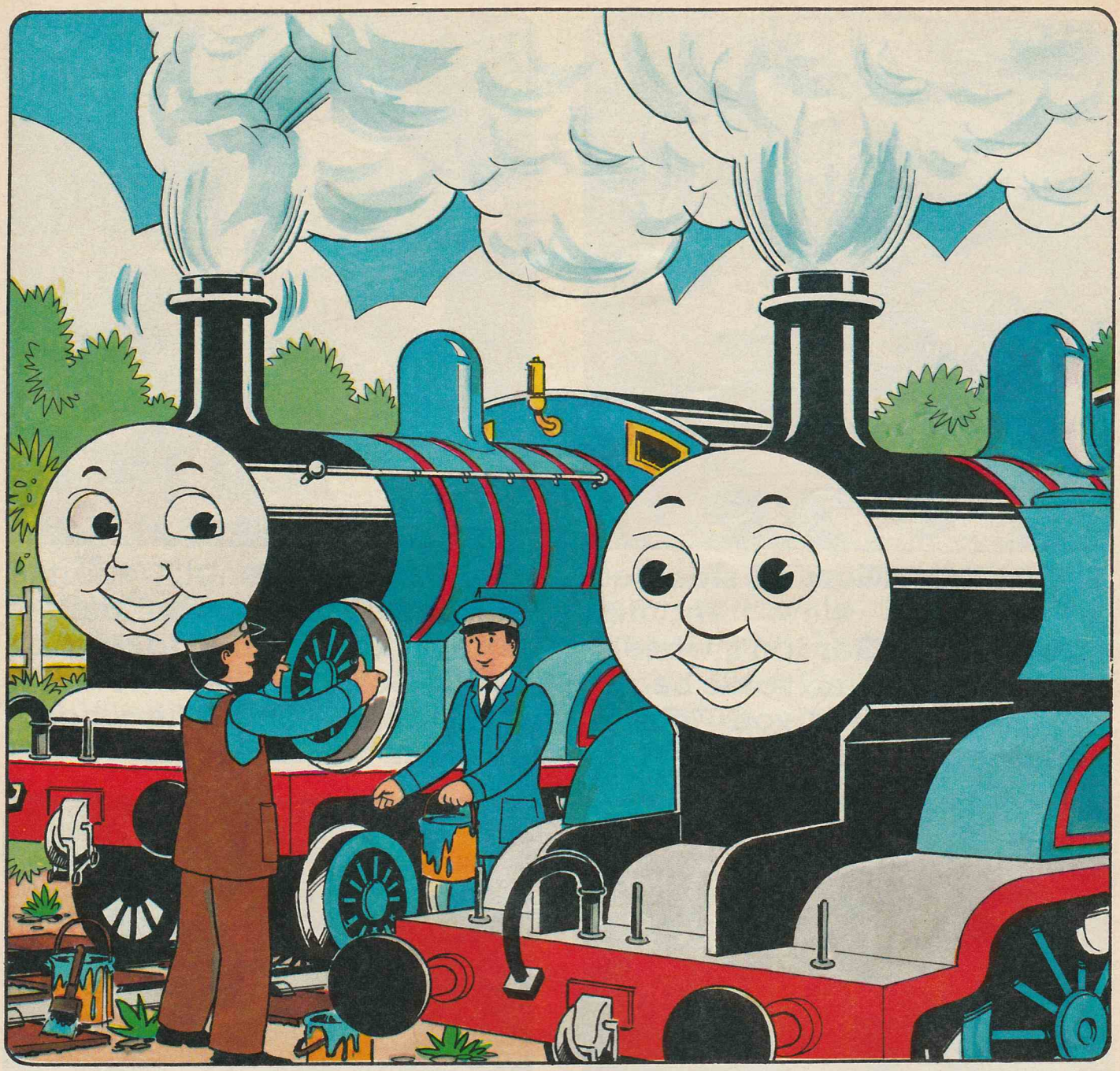
8. "Of course not!" snorted Gordon. "I am too well built to lose wheels!" After taking on coal, Gordon puffed towards the station – on **all** his wheels! It meant one thing . . .



9. "Poor Edward!" thought Thomas. "This has to be his wheel! He is getting old, but Really Useful Engines don't lose their wheels. Edward might have to be scrapped!"



10. "I hope not!" said Edward suddenly. He puffed past Thomas towards the shed. Thomas was very pleased – Edward still had all his wheels! So who had lost the blue one?



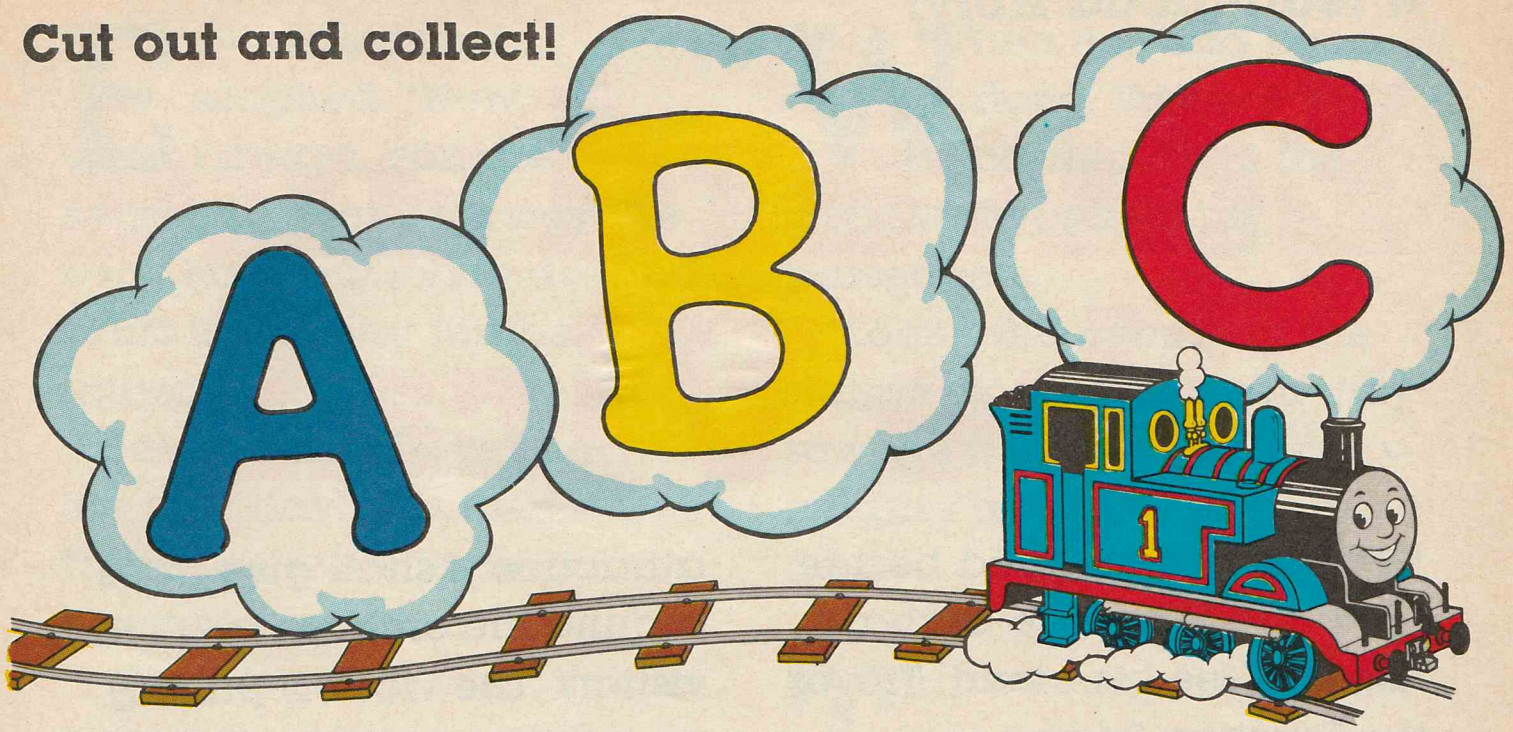
11. Thomas thought hard, yet he couldn't imagine who the wheel belonged to. Just then his driver returned, with a workman from the shed. The workman was carrying two tins of new blue paint. "No need to worry, Thomas," said his driver. "The wheel is an old one which has just been painted!"

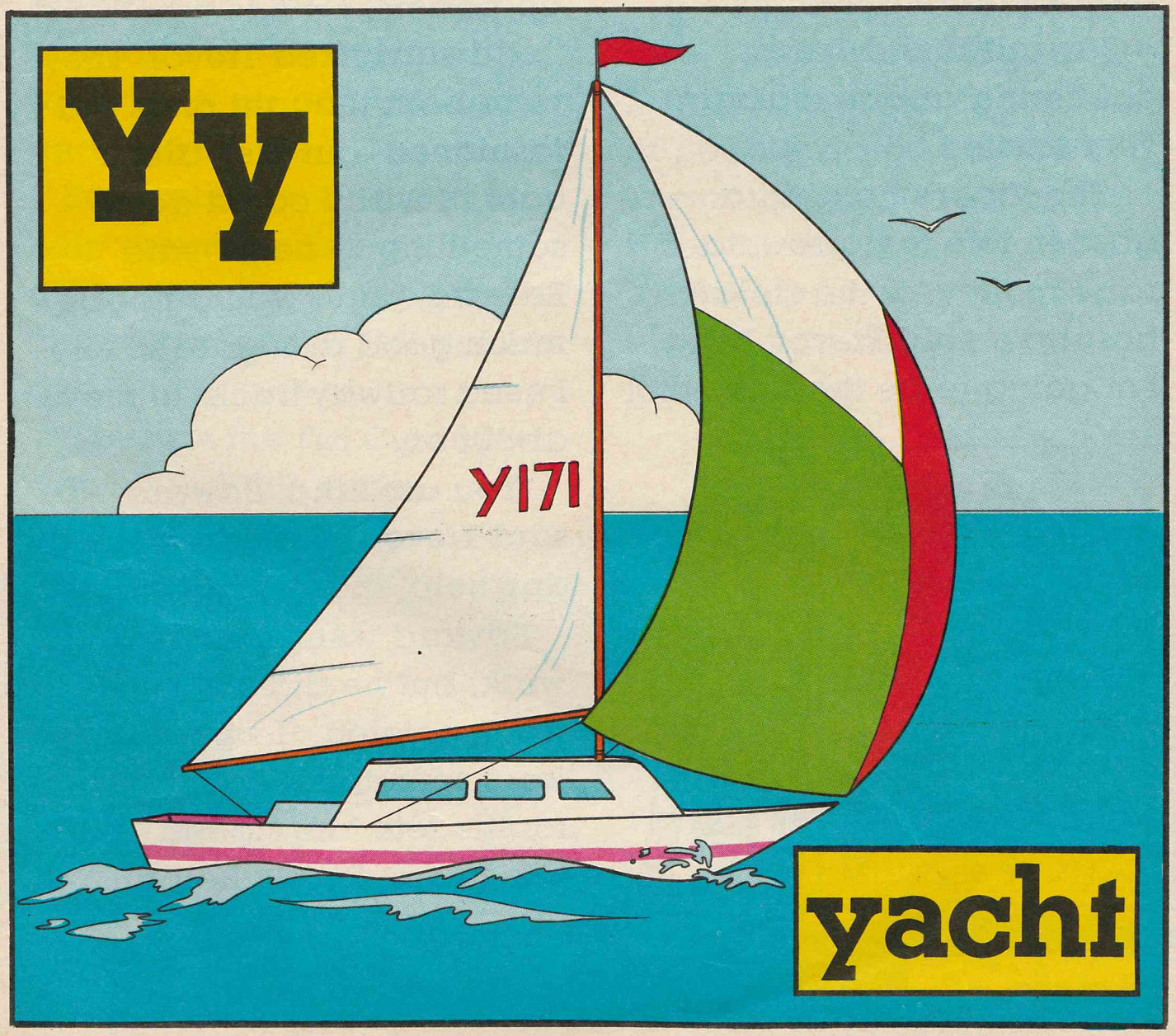
12. "I wanted to see how the new paint looked when it was dry," added the workman. "It looks fine – so which engine should have a new coat of paint first?" "Thomas!" said Edward. "Because he was very concerned for the other engines when he saw the wheel." Everyone agreed, especially Thomas!

THE END

Another story begins on page 13!

Cut out and collect!





A read-aloud story!

Edward and the Vicar

Edward stopped beside the Vicarage Orchard to see his friend, Trevor the Traction Engine.

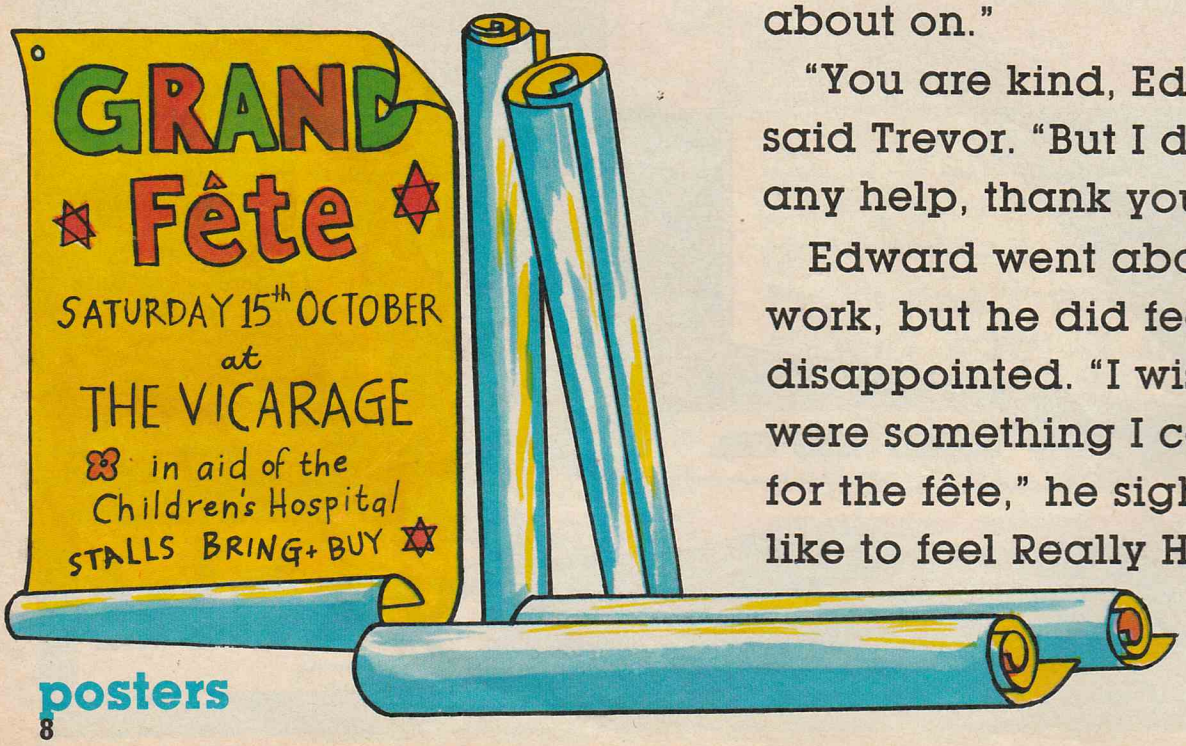
Edward found Trevor chuffering about, looking very excited.

"The Vicar's holding a garden fête tomorrow, to raise money for the children's hospital," said Trevor. "And I'm going to be the star attraction. I shall give rides around the orchard to all the visitors. The vicar is putting up posters.

Edward liked Trevor. They were both thought of as old-fashioned, but they didn't care. "I wish I could do something to help," said Edward. "But I would not be much good at a garden fête. I need railway tracks to move about on."

"You are kind, Edward," said Trevor. "But I don't need any help, thank you."

Edward went about his work, but he did feel disappointed. "I wish there were something I could do for the fête," he sighed. "I'd like to feel Really Helpful."



posters

Edward's driver laughed. "Now, Edward, you **are** helpful in your own way. We each have our job to do, and yours is working for the railway."

Edward saw Trevor again the next day. This time it was Trevor who was feeling disappointed.

"The Vicar has forgotten to put up the posters to tell everyone about the fête," he said. "Now no one will come and ride on me."

Edward knew of a way to help them. He asked his driver if the Vicar could paste the posters on the sides of his cab and coaches.

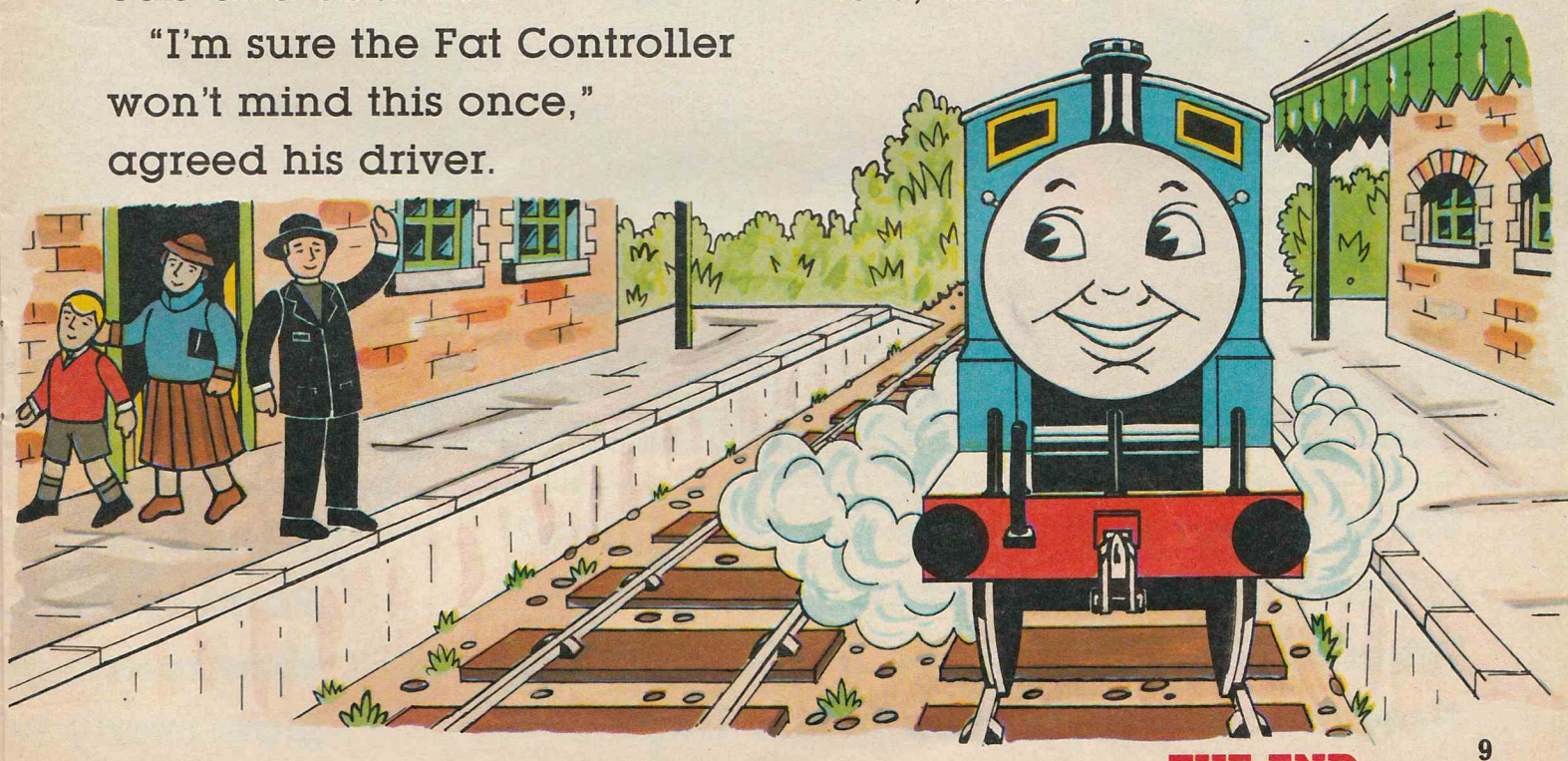
"I'm sure the Fat Controller won't mind this once," agreed his driver.

When this had been done. Edward carried on to the stations, to collect his passengers.

"Look," the people at the station would say when they saw the posters. "The Vicar's holding a fête. We must go to that."

That evening, the Vicar arrived at Top Station to see Edward. "Well done, Edward," he said. "Hundreds of people visited our fête. Trevor was kept busy giving rides all day thanks to you."

Edward felt very pleased that he had helped at the fête, after all.



THE END

Round the pa

What colour is Boco the Diesel Engine?

Is the signal up or down?

What is the girl with the bag collecting?

How many can you see in the tree?

Where is the sq

Point to the see

How many girls

How many bird

park!

e squirrel going?

seesaw!

girls are on the swings?

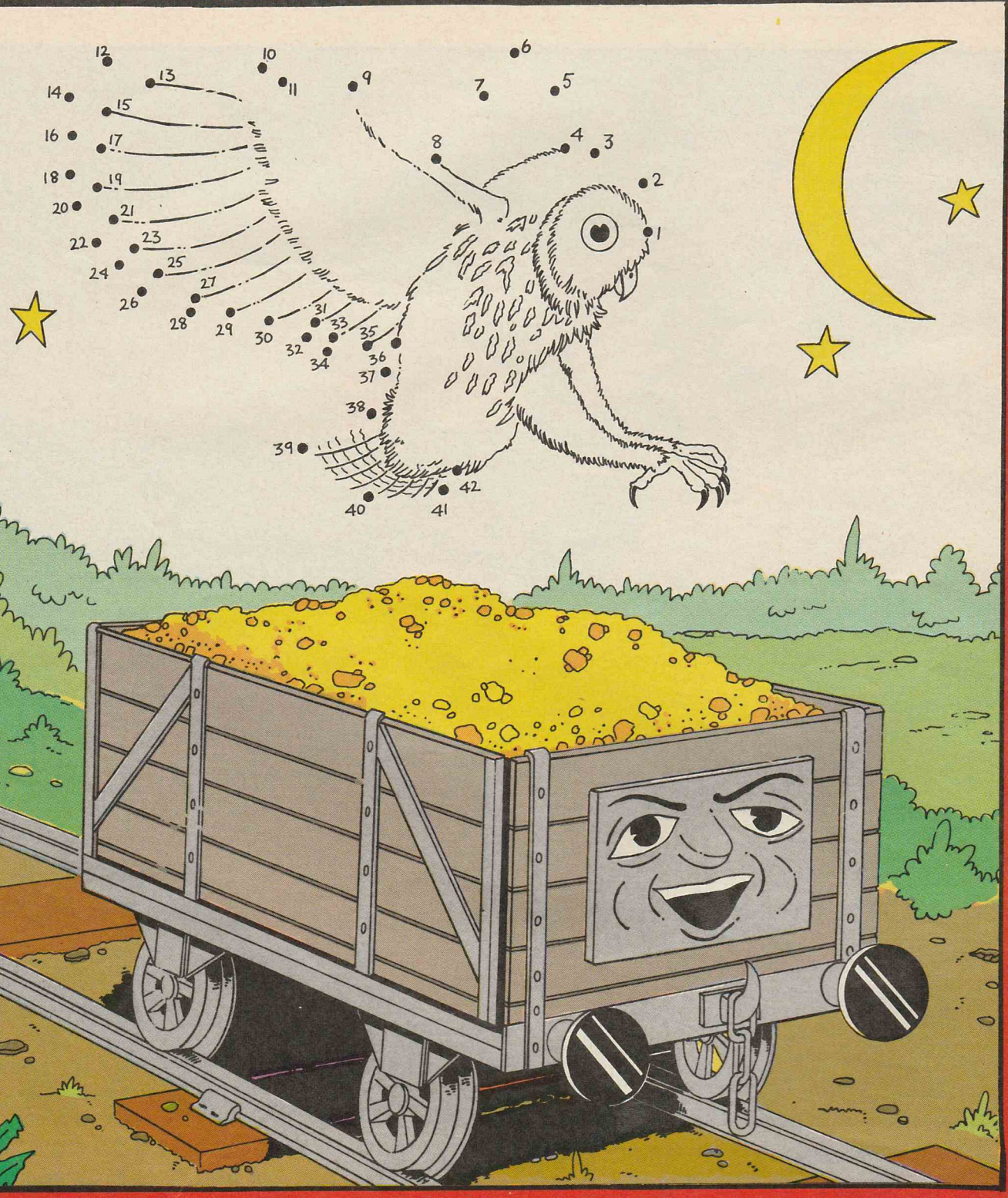
birds are flying?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

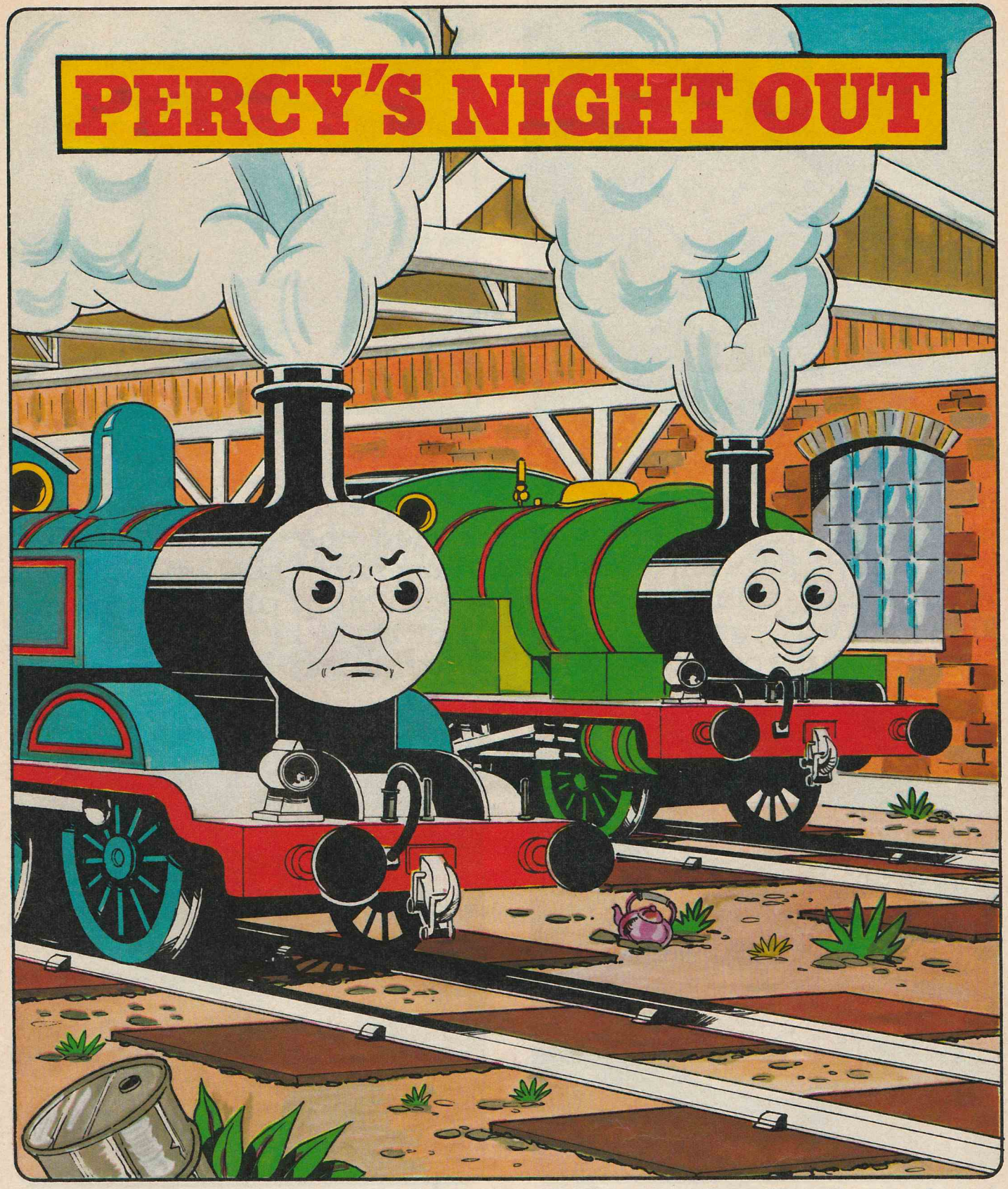
Next: Come to the party!

JOIN THE DOTS!



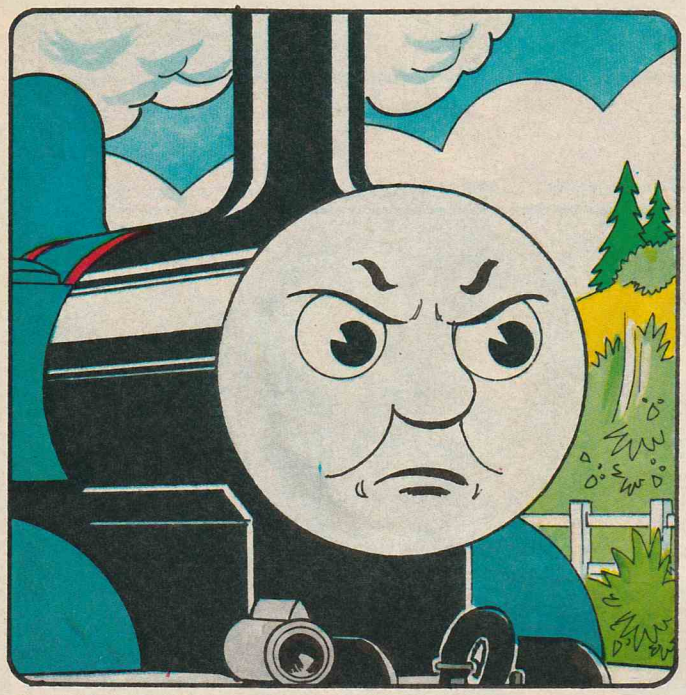
Join the dots to find out exactly what is flying over the grumbly truck – then you can finish colouring the picture!

A listen and look story!

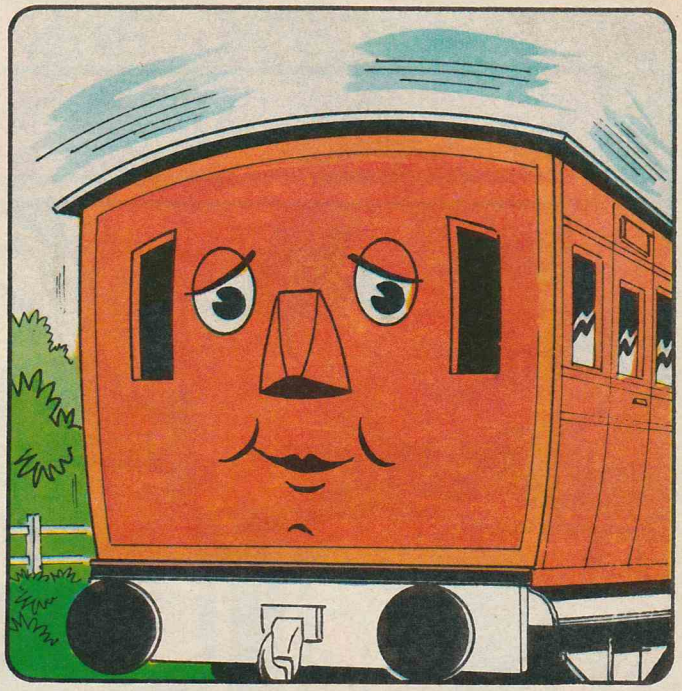


1. Percy and Thomas are both tank engines and they are also both friends. But Percy thinks it is funny sometimes to tease Thomas, especially about being frightened.

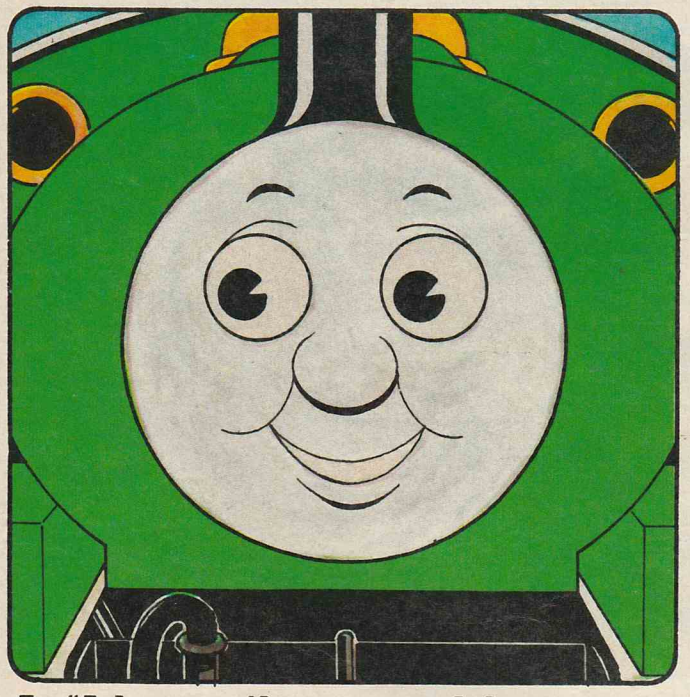
2. "Remember the time when you thought I was a ghost, Thomas?" chuckled Percy one morning. "That gave you the jitters, all right! I've never known such a scaredy-cab!"



3. "Pah!" huffed Thomas. "I was only pretending. I knew it was you really." He went to fetch Annie and Clarabel, but Thomas was grumpy and bumpy with the poor coaches.

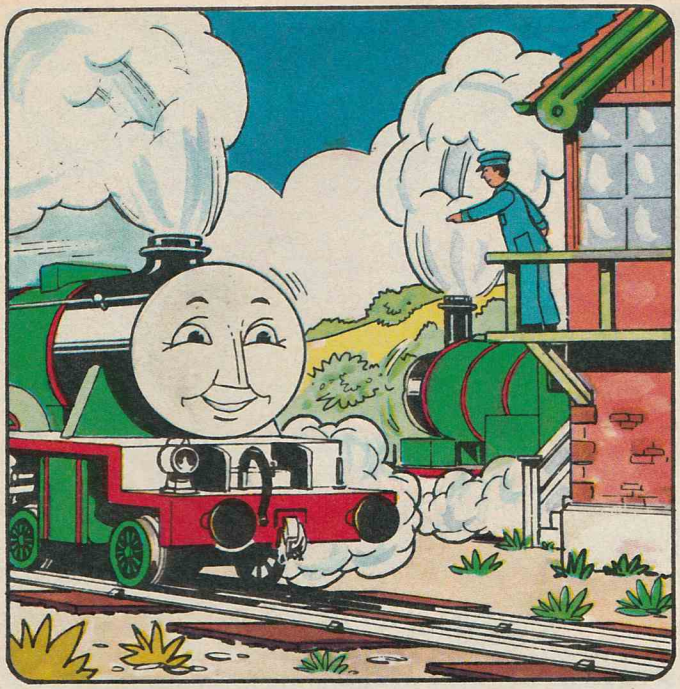


4. "Never mind. Never mind," rattled the coaches kindly. "Cheer up. Cheer up." Thomas soon forgot all about it, but that night in the shed, Percy brought it up again.



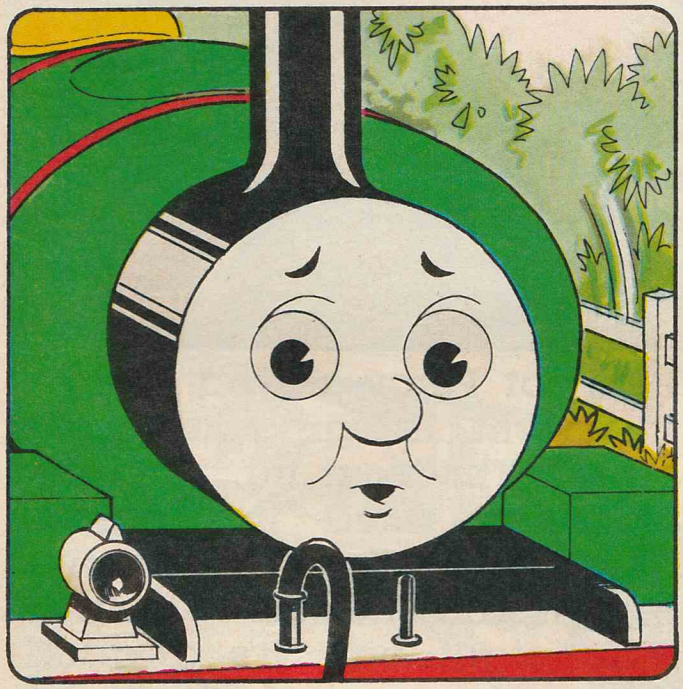
5. "I hope the guard leaves a light on for you, Thomas," giggled Percy. "What do you mean?" asked Thomas. "You'd be afraid of the dark," said Percy and he laughed.

6. Late one afternoon, a few days later, Percy was moving trucks about the yard. The signalman switched the points for Percy to back some trucks on to a siding.

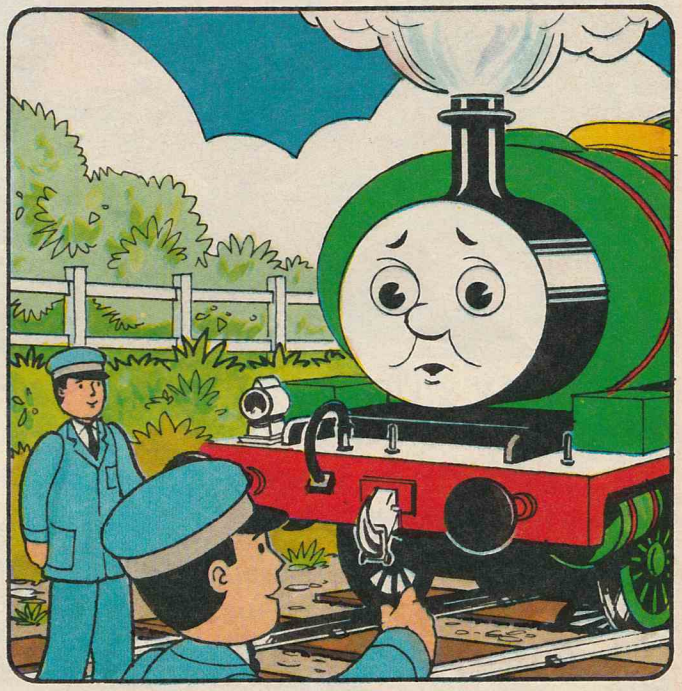


7. Just then Henry brought in the goods train and the signalman had to switch the points back for him to pass. Percy waited on the siding until Henry had passed by.

8. But the signalman didn't switch the points. "I can't seem to shift 'em," he said to Percy's driver. "They're jammed tight! The workmen will have to fix 'em."



9. "It's late now, though," he said. "Best leave it for the morning." "Right you are," said Percy's driver. "Percy'll be all right." Percy was not so sure.



10. Percy's fireman shut his boiler down. Then he climbed down with Percy's driver. "Where are you going?" asked Percy. "We're going home for our tea," said the fireman.

11. Percy was left alone on the siding. He watched as the other engines headed back to the shed for the night. The sun went down. "Oh, deary me," said Percy. "It's very dark." Then he heard a strange noise. **"Hoo! Hoo!"** "Wh-what was th-that?" wondered Percy. It was only an owl, but Percy didn't know and he was frightened!

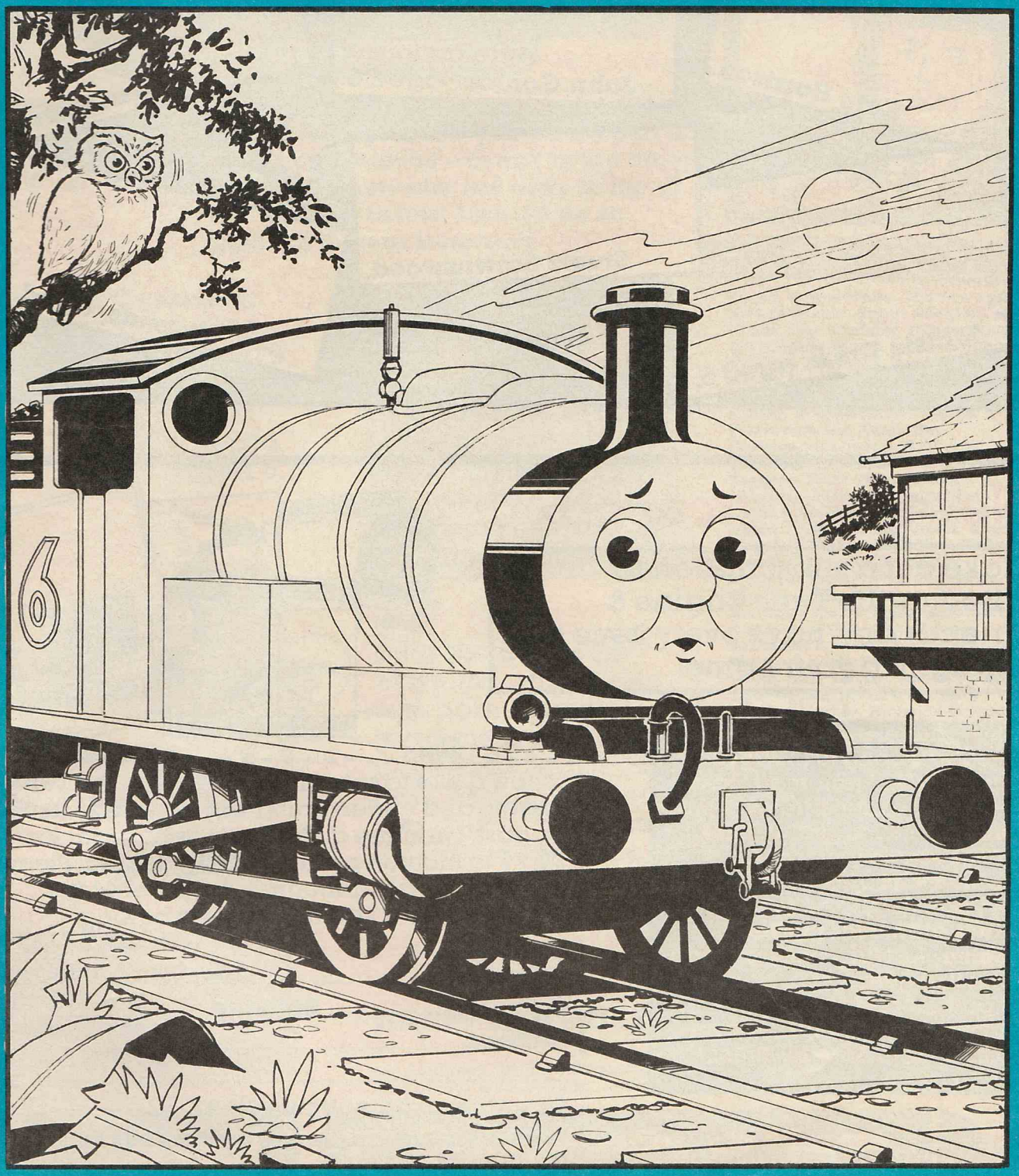
12. Poor Percy stayed awake all night listening to scary noises. The next morning the workmen fixed the points. Thomas came by. "'Morning Percy!" said Thomas. "How was your night out? It's a good thing you're not afraid of the dark!" Percy didn't say anything, but he never teased Thomas about being frightened again.

THE END

More fun on the line in our next issue!

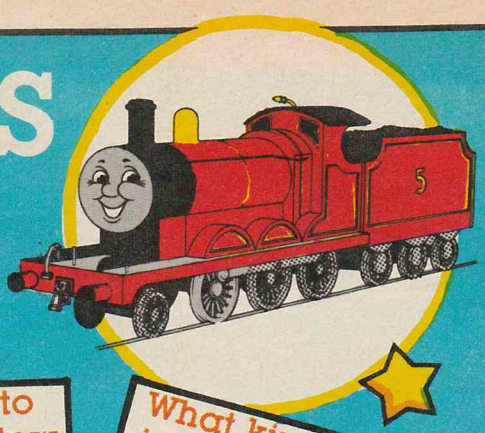
COLOURING TIME!

Poor Percy's all alone at night,
Colour him in and he'll feel all right!



JAMES'S JAPES

Thank you for sending us all your funny jokes. Here are a few of James's favourites!



How do you start a flea race?
One, two, flea, go!
Kate Harrison.

When is it bad luck to have a black cat follow you?
When you are a mouse!
John Gordon, aged 5.

What kind of bow is it impossible to tie?
A rainbow!
Katherine Pryor.

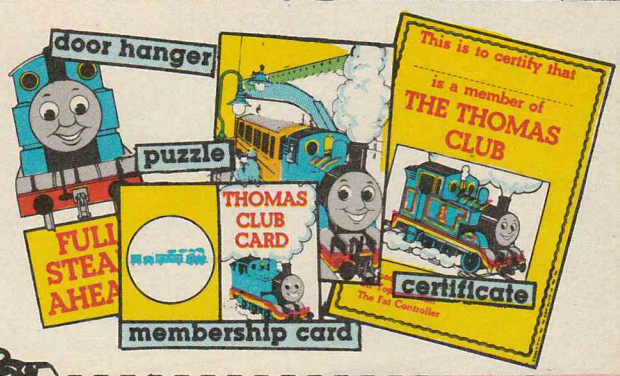
If I had twenty-two apples in one hand and sixteen in the other, what would I have?
Big hands!
Maisie Drew, aged 5.

What noise does a cat make going down the M1?
Miaoooooooooooooow!
Stuart Brownswood.

What do you get if you cross a witch and an ice cube?
A cold spell!
Thomas, aged 5.

News of a great offer!

Take out a subscription to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends and have every issue sent straight to your home!



What's more, if you do not already belong to the **Thomas Club,** you will automatically become an immediate member and your exciting **Club Pack** will be sent to you too!
It costs **£9.75** including postage and packing, to be sent **26 issues** of **Thomas the Tank Engine.** Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to:
Thomas subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your first magazine and Club Pack.

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£9.75** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member of the **Thomas Club** If I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian.....

Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Make your cheque or postal order payable to *Marvel Comics Ltd.*

Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER

Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I think you treat the trains well and I have drawn a picture of you.

Love from **David**, aged 6.

I have pinned the picture up in my office, David. Thank you very much.

David wins a set of **vinyl Thomas stickers**, *from Scorpio Products International Ltd.*

VEGETABLES!

Dear Fat Controller,
At school we always have to eat our vegetables because they are good for you. What is **your** favourite vegetable?

Love from **Richard**, 4.

I am very fond of fresh, green beans, especially when they are served with roast beef, potatoes and Yorkshire pudding.

TOBY BOOK!

Dear Fat Controller,
When my baby sister was born Mummy gave me a new book. It is all about Toby the tram engine. I like it very much, because I'm called Toby too.

Love, **Toby**, aged 2½.

I have that book too, Toby. It is one of my favourites, you know.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best wishes go to:

Jay Adlington, Richard Cammoile, John-James Watkins-Field, Andrew Thorn, Trevor White, Thomas and Nickey Saxton, Stuart Goodlad, Neil Brown, Ian Harrison, Jemma King, Christopher Hibbs, Jason Bonthuys, Matthew Reynolds, Jamie Howells, Nicola Lewis, Michael Clark, Marie Stuart, Stephen Surgenor, Daniel Hurley, Robbie Smith, Andrew Fleetwood, Ian Kennerley, Christopher Lawson, Anthony Dickenson, Jai Matharu, Liam Gregory, Mark Thomas, Neil Belshaw, Adrian Wallace, Gary Collins, Matthew Daniels, Peter and David Tonks, Nathan Jones, Simon Baggley, Matthew Wilding, Willaim Hewitt (13768), Christopher McIntosh, Gregory Howes, Peter Arnott, Jeffrey Elliott, Anthony Slade, Bradley Stewart, Thomas Downer, Taralee Burford, Oliver Dean, Jonathan Zasiona, Louise Williams, Wayne Grovell, Sean Baker, Mark Monk, Gary Siessor, Steven Schofield, Gary Hands, Andrew Baigent, Micheal Corker, Nicholas Burgess and Jody Crooks.

If you'd like a birthday mention, just send me details on a postcard please, at least **8 weeks in advance**. We cannot **promise** to print all the birthdays we receive, but we will do our best!

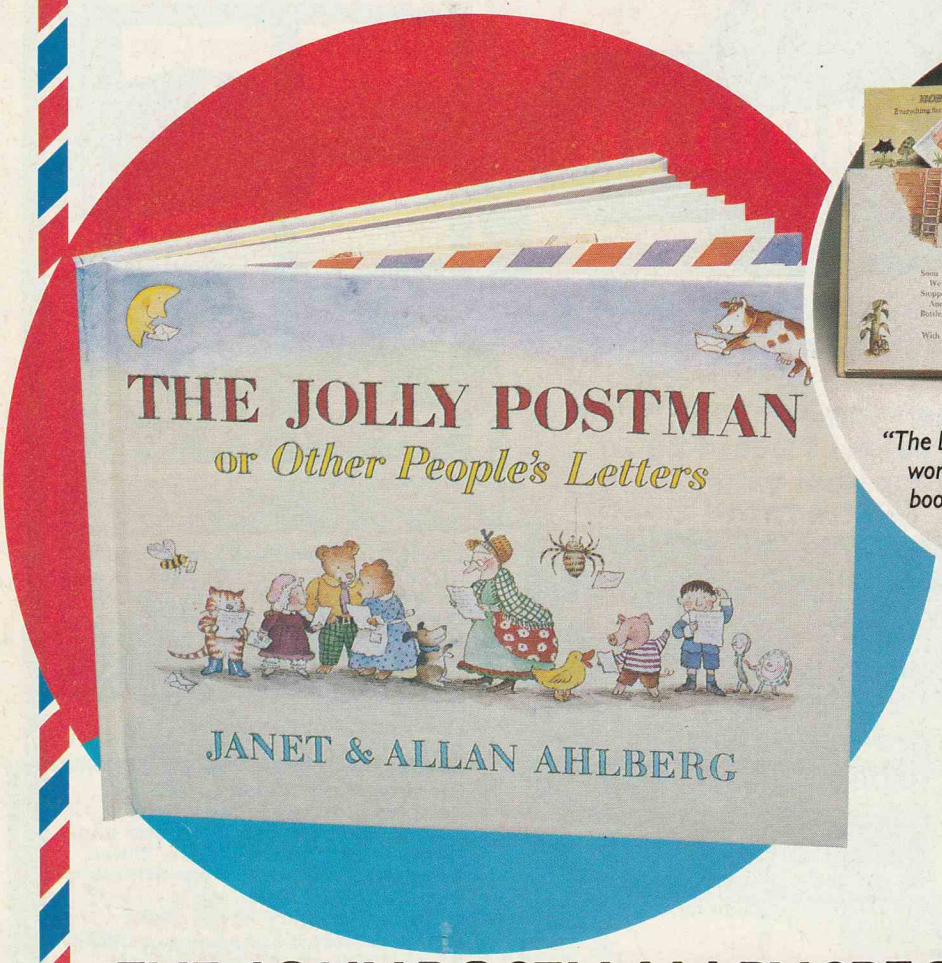
Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: **The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2**

'THE BOOK OF THE DECADE' –COMES FREE WHEN YOUR FAMILY JOINS THE RED HOUSE



"The blend of fun, novelty and sheer quality of word and picture makes this the picture-book of the year – possibly the decade".
THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Perhaps the most original and unique book of our time, The Jolly Postman, has taken the children's book world by storm. With its intriguing storytelling device, the award winning Jolly Postman is a book that will captivate children of all ages. The delight of the book stems from the fact that every other page is an envelope containing letters.

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